

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

CCD data is compressed by compression means and stored in a raw image data buffer (step 10). Then, the compressed data is expanded by expansion means, so that pixel data thereof is sequentially output to an RPU (step 11). The RPU executes  
5 real-time image processing on the pixel data, so that the processed data is stored in a processed data buffer in units of frames. Then, a CPU reads an image from the processed data buffer at a proper timing and performs software processing such as high-efficiency coding through a temporary storage data buffer, for storing and preserving the processed data in a storage medium (step 12). Thus provided is an image  
10 processing circuit capable of reducing the scale of buffer areas in a memory for remarkably reducing the cost for the memory as well as power consumption.

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